

House File 2059 - Introduced

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BY REICHERT

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the Iowa statues on display in the United
2 States capitol.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 303.90 **Legislative intent.**

2 It is the intent of the general assembly to exchange the
3 statues of Samuel Kirkwood and James Harlan, both currently on
4 display in the United States capitol, with statues of Alexander
5 Clarke and Norman Borlaug.

6 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 303.91 **Committees — membership and
7 organization.**

8 1. Two committees are created and charged with organizing
9 and raising the funds necessary to exchange Iowa's statues on
10 display in the United States capitol with alternative statues.

11 a. A committee of seven is created, to be appointed by
12 the governor and to serve at the pleasure of the governor, to
13 exchange the Kirkwood statue currently on display in the United
14 States capitol with a statue of Alexander Clarke.

15 b. A committee of seven is created, to be appointed by
16 the governor and to serve at the pleasure of the governor, to
17 exchange the Harlan statue currently on display in the United
18 States capitol with a statue of Norman Borlaug.

19 2. Each committee shall annually select its own chairperson
20 and establish its rules of procedure. Each committee shall
21 meet as may be deemed necessary by the chairperson. A majority
22 of the members of each committee shall constitute a quorum.

23 3. Members shall serve without compensation or
24 reimbursement for actual expenses.

25 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 303.92 **Powers and duties.**

26 Each of the committees shall:

27 1. Raise all of the funds necessary for the operation of the
28 committee.

29 2. Solicit donations to exchange the statue, commission the
30 creation of a new statue, and make all arrangements with the
31 architect of the United States capitol necessary for the new
32 statue to be put into place.

33 3. Provide for the display of the statue, displaced from the
34 United States capitol in the rotunda of the Iowa capitol, for
35 a minimum period of ten years.

1 4. Provide for a perpetual display of the statue displaced
2 from the United States capitol at a suitable location within
3 Iowa, following the statue's display in the Iowa capitol.

4 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 303.93 Duties of the department.

5 The department of cultural affairs shall provide all
6 necessary administrative support for each of the committees and
7 shall administer the capitol statutory fund.

8 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. 303.94 Capitol statutory fund.

9 A capitol statutory fund is created in the state treasury,
10 to be administered by the department of cultural affairs. The
11 proceeds of the fund shall be used for the purposes specified
12 in section 303.92 and for the perpetual care of all four
13 statues. The department may accept gifts, bequests, other
14 moneys, including but not limited to state or federal moneys,
15 and in-kind contributions for deposit in the fund. The gifts,
16 grants, bequests from public and private sources, state and
17 federal moneys, and other moneys received by the department
18 shall be deposited in the fund. Notwithstanding section 12C.7,
19 interest or earnings on moneys in the fund shall be credited
20 to the fund. Notwithstanding section 8.33, any unexpended or
21 unencumbered moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the
22 fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund of the state,
23 but shall remain available for expenditure from the fund by the
24 department in succeeding fiscal years.

25 EXPLANATION

26 Under federal law each state is allowed to place two statues
27 of its noted personages in statutory hall in the U.S. capitol.
28 Federal legislation enacted in 2000, Pub. L. No. 106-554,
29 provides that any state may request the joint committee on the
30 library of congress to approve the replacement of a statue the
31 state has provided for display in statutory hall in the U.S.
32 capitol.

33 This bill provides for the exchange of the statues of Samuel
34 Kirkwood and James Harlan, with statues of Alexander Clarke and
35 Norman Borlaug.

1 The bill creates two seven-member committees which are
2 responsible for raising, through donations, all funds necessary
3 to make these changes. The committee members will not receive
4 any compensation or reimbursement. Staff support is provided
5 by the department of cultural affairs.

6 The bill creates a capitol statuary fund in the state
7 treasury, administered by the department of cultural affairs.
8 The fund will finance committee operations, the change in
9 statuary, and provide for the perpetual care of all four
10 statues.

11 Samuel Jordan Kirkwood was Iowa's civil war governor,
12 also serving in the U.S. Senate and as the U.S. secretary
13 of the interior in 1881-1882. James Harlan was Iowa's first
14 superintendent of public instruction, a U.S. senator, and U.S.
15 secretary of the department of the interior. Alexander G.
16 Clark, the son of emancipated slaves, was a lawyer, newspaper
17 editor, and civil rights advocate; in addition, Clark served as
18 the U.S. minister to Liberia. Geneticist Dr. Norman E. Borlaug
19 developed strains of high-yield wheat and received the Nobel
20 Peace Prize as father of the "Green Revolution".